Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 10285 041350Z

43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 041310Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9292 INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

SECRETTEHRAN 10285

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, IR, IT

SUBJ: THE SHAH AND ITALY

REFS: (A) TEHRAN 5469; (B) TEHRAN 6133

1. DURING AUDIENCE DECEMBER 4, SHAH TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT AS ITALY NOW HAD A GOVERNMENT HE HAD AGREED TO A VISIT BY PRESIDENT LEONE IN MID-DECEMBER. SHAH ADDED THAT DURING LEONE'S VISIT HE WOULD "GET SOMETHING". THINKING OUT LOUD, SHAH OBSERVED THAT HE WAS AWARE OF ITALY'S DEEP-SEATED PROBLEMS AND DIFFICULTIES ANY GOVERNMENT WOULD FACE IN THAT COUNTRY. HE COMMENTED THAT HE WOULD HATE VERY MUCH TO SEE ITALY GO COMMUNIST AND THOUGHT THAT SOME PREVENTIVE ACTION IN FORM OF IRANIAN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MIGHT BE USEFUL.

2. IT IS CLEAR THAT SHAH'S THINKING HAS PROGRESSIVELY EVOLVED SINCE HIS FIRST RATHER HARD LINE REACTION TO ITALIAN REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE LAST SUMMER (REFTELS). SHAH IS TAKING HIS ROLE SERIOUSLY AS A LEADER SHO IS ABLE TO USE HIS RESOURCES FOR CONSTRUCTIVE PURPOSES. WE THINK THIS NEW OUTLOOK TOWARD ITALY IS A VERY WELCOME DEVELOPMENT AND WILL DO WHAT WE CAN TO ENCOURAGE SIMILAR MANIFESTATIONS.

HELMS

SECRET

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Subject: THE SHAH AND ITALY

TAGS: PFOR, IR, IT, (PAHLAVI, MOHAMMED REZA)

To: STATE

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